

Speaker, Samantha made their day and their trip.

I have a sizable stack of letters from Oregonians who took the time to write after their trip to Washington, D.C., to thank me for Samantha's assistance and her dogged determination to make sure their experience was memorable.

Mr. Speaker, Samantha's energetic and helpful demeanor was equally appreciated by her coworkers. She was attentive in recognizing when something needed to be done, taking the initiative to complete projects and lend others a helping hand. Whether she was drafting letters to address a constituent's concerns or keeping the information on my web site up to date, Samantha's contributions were always appreciated and on target. During her time in my office, she took a staff assistant role and developed it into something much more.

Samantha's attitude and intellect will serve her well as she continues her public service at the Department of the Treasury. Mr. Speaker, she will be a difficult person to replace. Sam, thank you for a job well done and good luck in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CATHERINE
OCHENSKI

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Catherine Ochenski in honor of her becoming the first female District Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars 11th district.

Kate proudly served her country in the Women's Army Corps from 1944 to 1946 both in the United States and in Europe. Her role during these 2 years was to assist in the aftermath of World War II. Kate has since gone on to wed a Marine veteran, and raise a family of three children. She has also served in a multitude of capacities at V.F.W. Post 1075 for over 15 years, where she currently has received the honor of being the first female District Commander. Kate's accomplishments are numerous, and her devotion to her country is steadfast.

I am honored today to recognize Catherine Ochenski for her many accomplishments, and to congratulate her on the celebration of her role as first female District Commander for the V.F.W. Post 1075.

RECOGNIZING THE MARRIAGE OF
DENA MARIE CARLI AND DENNIS
WAYNE POCIASK

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my best wishes for the upcoming marriage of Dena Marie Carli and Dennis Wayne Pociask on June 7, 2003.

Dena and Dennis met while on duty as police officers with the 13th District Chicago Police Department.

Dena, who is currently pursuing a law degree, has been working in law enforcement since 1995. She started as Cook County deputy sheriff and in 1999 became a Chicago police officer. Her parents, Officer Reno and Diane Carli, and her sister, Officer Lisa Carli, are all very proud of her decision to continue in the family business of keeping our city safe.

Dennis has been with the police force since 1998 and remains close with his mother, Tina, his brother, Ray, his sister-in-law, Pamela, and his niece, Holly.

Mr. Speaker, marriage is an occasion worthy of celebration and recognition. Please join me in wishing the very best for Dena and Dennis' new life together. May they share many pleasant memories in a marriage built on trust, friendship and a loving commitment to one another. I wish them many years of happiness and ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE NORTH BRUNSWICK
TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the victory of the 37 member team from North Brunswick Township High School who built the robot, Evil Machine, and took second place in the national FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition in Houston Texas. Building a champion robot is more than creating a machine with technical prowess. It represents hours of hard work, dedication, collaboration and communication among students, teachers, mentors and community members. FIRST is an example of technology at its finest. It involves identifying a problem, developing a hypothesis to solve it and implementing the solution.

To win second place in a national competition against 300 other high school robots is a good accomplishment. Each team that participated in FIRST was required to design and build a robot that solved the "game problem" using "kit parts" and a standard set of rules. Over a six-week period, the North Brunswick Township High School team designed "Evil Machine". His task for the competition was to collect and stack plastic storage containers on their side of the playing field, to knock down walls, and during the two-minute competition, to keep the opposing team's robots from doing the same activity.

FIRST is a critical program because it reinforces science education. Science is not just another subject. It is fundamental like reading and math. Science brings order, harmony, and balance to our lives. It teaches us that our world is intelligible and not capricious. A scientific framework provides us the skill for lifelong learning, for creating progress itself. These are very important skills for the very complex times in which we live.

I ask that all the members join me in congratulating these 34 North Brunswick Township High School Students for their excellence and their FIRST Robotics victory.

CONGRATULATING BOYD AND
IRENE MADDOX ON 75 YEARS OF
MARRIAGE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, we in America have a penchant celebrating milestones in just about every endeavor, be it sports, business or even school attendance. But today I would like to recognize a truly amazing milestone, which is only rarely reached in our modern world: the 75th wedding anniversary of Boyd and Irene Maddox of San Bernardino County.

Boyd Maddox and Irene Crozier are lifelong residents of the Old West, growing up in the rugged early 20th-Century New Mexico Territory, marrying in Tombstone, Arizona and finally settling at the 250,000-acre Las Flores Ranch in the Mojave Desert—a working cattle ranch that still provides good employment to the cowboys of the 21st Century.

Boyd was born in Lordsburg, New Mexico in 1908 and grew up on a cattle ranch where he got to know a young neighbor girl named Sandra Day—later to become Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. After graduating from New Mexico Military Academy, Boyd became a messenger for Continental Bank of Los Angeles, and then worked his way up through a series of banks to become chief bookkeeper of the Douglas State Bank in southern Arizona.

Irene had graduated from Tombstone High School, and married the young bank officer on June 10, 1928 at Old Adobe Episcopal Church in her hometown. The couple homesteaded for 2 years, but the depression forced Boyd to go to work for the Civilian Conservation Corps as a bookkeeper.

A former bank employer had purchased a cattle ranch—the Las Flores Ranch in the Mojave Desert, and urged the Maddox's to come west and help him manage it. They finally visited in September 1938, and never left. Boyd became the working general manager and stayed for the next 50 years until his retirement. Irene raised Boyd, Jr., who is now 67.

Mr. Speaker, Boyd and Irene Maddox are enjoying an active retirement, traveling, visiting friends and reminiscing. I'm sure we would be spellbound by the stories they could tell of their remarkable life together all these years. Please join me in congratulating them on their 75th wedding anniversary, and wishing them many more years to come.

HONORING LEGENDARY PENN
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH
CHRIS GEESMAN

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 2, 2003

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a living legend, Penn High School football coach Chris Geesman from Mishawaka, Indiana.

Coach Geesman recently announced he plans to retire from coaching at the end of this school year.